

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled NEW ASSAY the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Priority Not Claimed

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

-1-

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

(Status -- patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

(Status -- patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Edward V. Filardi, Reg. No. 25,757; Nels T. Lippert, Reg. No. 25,888; Dimitrios Drivas, Reg. No. 32,218; Robert B. Smith, Reg. No. 28,538; Cecilia O'Brien Lofters, Reg. No. 33,434; David Bender, Reg. No. 35,445; John M. Genova, Reg. No. 32,224; Richard J. Sterner, Reg. No. 35,372; Hans-Peter G. Hoffmann, Reg. No. 37,352; Thelma C. Cleland, Reg. No. 40,948; Leslie Morioka, Reg. No. 40,304; John Scheibeler, Reg. No. 35,346; and Roy Waldron III, Reg. No. 42,208, all of the firm of WHITE & CASE Limited Liability Partnership, with offices at 1155 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036.

Address all telephone calls to _____ at telephone number (212) 819-8200

Address all correspondence to WHITE & CASE LLP
Patent Department
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036-2787

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believe to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor
(given name, family name)

Sunita Desousa

First inventor's signature

Sunita de Souza

Date: 21 June 1999

Residence Address

Bangalore, India

Citizenship Indian

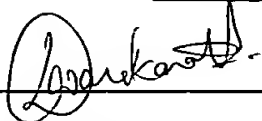
Post Office Address

Astra Biochemicals Pvt Ltd, P.O. Box 8013, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560080, India

Full name of second joint inventor, if any
(given name, family name)

Dwarakanath Prahlad

Second inventor's signature



Date

21 June 1999

Residence Address

Bangalore, India

Citizenship

Indian

ZH/X

Post Office Address

Astra Biochemicals Pvt Ltd, P.O. Box 8013, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560080, India

0004150.070659